



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor : Michael E. Spurlock

Appln. No. : 09/932,888

Filed : August 20, 2001

Title : Porcine Leptin Protein, Antisense and Antibody

Docket No. : LL31.12-0016

Group Art Unit: 1647

Examiner:  
Christine J. Saoud

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**RESPONSE**

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL**

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Sir:

**REMARKS**

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed on March 7, 2003. In the Office Action, the Examiner alleged that four different inventions are defined by claims 1-12 of the above-identified application, and further alleges: "Restriction to one of the following [four] inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121." In the course of making this restriction requirement, the Examiner alleges the invention of the above-identified application actually constitutes four different inventions of Groups I, II, III, and IV.

The Examiner alleges the invention of Group I is both independent and distinct from the inventions of Groups II, II, and IV, the invention of Group II is both independent and distinct from the inventions of Groups I, III, and IV, the invention of Group III is both independent and distinct from the inventions of Groups I, II, and IV, and the invention of Group IV is both independent and distinct from the inventions of Groups I, II, and III. The Examiner places claims 1-5 in Group I, claims 6-9 in Group II, claims 10-11 in Group III, and claim 12 in Group IV, as follows:

- I. Claims 1-5, drawn to DNA encoding porcine leptin, vectors, and host cells, classified in at least class 435, subclass 69.1, for example.
- II. Claims 6-9, drawn to antisense RNA, classified in class 514, subclass 44.